

Armed robbery suspects apprehended in Dillsburg

by David March

Dillsburg Police Monday arrested two area men in connection with an armed robbery of a Uni-Mart in Fairview Township.

Arrested were Randy D. Copenhaver, 18, of Poplar Road, Dillsburg, and Joshua W. McCleam, 18, of Beechwood Drive, Dillsburg.

According to police, the two men, who were wearing nylon stockings on their heads, walked into a Uni-Mart on Wyndmere in Fairview Township near Exit 15 off Rt. 83 at 10:45 a.m.

Armed with a 12 gauge semi-automatic shotgun and a .22 cal. bolt action rifle, they allegedly took the cash drawer from the register and fled in McCleam's Chevy Monte Carlo.

The two men then went shopping at Capital City Mall where they bought T-shirts, a strobe light and got haircuts.

The empty cash drawer was recovered at 1:32 p.m. along the roadside at Rt. 177 and Quaker Road in Newberry Township.

At around 2:15 p.m. McCleam's Monte Carlo was seen at Pinchot Village where he bought gas, then headed for Dillsburg.

At 3:15 p.m. Dillsburg police officers Joe LaPorta and Rex Carmichael, on their way to their station, spotted McCleam sitting in his blue Monte Carlo behind the fire station at the ball field.

When questioned by the officers McCleam admitted to the robbery and in confessing, also implicated Copenhaver.

McCleam told police he took the money because he didn't want to, "Mooch off anybody". Being homeless at the time of his arrest, McCleam was living out of his car.

While police questioned McCleam at their station, Officers Carlos Trump and Rick Magee, heading for Copenhaver's

residence, found Copenhaver sitting in his car at the ball field parked beside McCleam's Monte Carlo where police had 15 minutes earlier arrested McCleam.

The two apparently had chosen the site for a meeting place, either not knowing or not caring, that police routinely use the alley while traveling to and from their station less than a half of a block away.

Both were held at the Dillsburg Police Station for Fairview Township Police. They were arraigned before Duty Magistrate James Hodge in York and committed to York County prison in lieu of \$100,000 bail.

A search of the two vehicles produced three BB guns, drug paraphernalia, marijuana seeds and a green army style coat. The coat was similar to the description given by one of the store clerks.

The shotgun and rifle were found at the house of the one man's girlfriend.

Armed robbery carries a 10 year maximum sentence, but if convicted the two men will automatically be sent to prison for at least 5 years because a gun was used.

The State Police would not comment whether this robbery is related to the one which took place at Lynn's Market, Wellsville two weeks ago.

On March 22 at approximately 11:45 a.m., a masked man, brandishing a shotgun, held customers at bay while he demanded the cash drawers at the convenience store.

He was described by witnesses in the store as having been about 6' tall with long dark hair, dressed in white with a scarf pulled up over his face.

He was last seen headed up Route 74 in an older model green pick-up truck.



Photo by David March

Officers Trump and Magee of the Dillsburg Police Department take into custody Randy Copenhaver, 18, of Poplar Road, Dillsburg. Copenhaver, along with Josh McCleam, also 18, were charged with armed robbery. Police couldn't give an exact amount, but estimate the

pair took about \$450.

Despite an all points bulletin on McCleam's Monte Carlo, the two were to meet behind the Dillsburg Fire Hall just four hours after the robbery, just a half block away from the Police Department.

Extent of Satanic activity difficult to determine

By Michele Serwach

Do Dillsburg and devil worshippers go hand in hand?

After a group of teens who said they were searching for devil worshippers were caught with homemade bombs, guns and other weapons, local residents may be wondering how serious the problem is.

"Satanism isn't a crime, it's protected under the Constitution, so we wouldn't investigate a Satanic cult," said Jake Ruth, a state police trooper. "If animals were being maimed or killed, that would be a different story."

Ruth said he knows of only one instance where an animal may have been killed in a Satanic ritual in the Dillsburg area.

In 1988, a German Shepherd was found in Williams Grove with a spike driven through its skull. The dog's body was surrounded by Satanic symbols, such as the pentagram.

The teens who admitted driving the spike through the dog's head, said the dog had been killed when it was hit by a car and said they had driven the spike through its head as a prank.

Ruth said teens involved in Satanic activity in the Dillsburg area appear to be "dabblers".

"They're certainly not second or third generation Satanists," he said. "They seem to be a bunch of rebellious teens who are just trying to scare their parents and any other authority figures."

Ron Doyle, the Mechanicsburg agent for the humane society, says he knows of cases in other areas where animals have been killed in what appeared to be Satanic rituals.

"In Franklin County, a Shepherd-type dog was found with his heart removed," Doyle said. "The skeleton bones of a dog and a goat were found at a bus stop."

Cruelty to animals is considered a crime under section 55-11 of the Pennsylvania Crime Code and is punishable by a jail term of up to two years or a fine of up to \$5,000, Doyle said.

According to the Satanic Bible, several upcoming holidays on the Satanic ritual calendar call for animal or human sacrifices:

--April 26 thru May 1, Grand Climax, sacrifice of a female age 1 to 25

--June 21, Feast Day, sacrifice of an animal or human of either sex, any age

--July 1, Demon Revels, sacrifice of a female of any age

--August 3, Satanic Revels, sacrifice of a female age 7 to 17

--September 7, Marriage to the Beast Satan, sacrifice of a female age infant to 21

--September 22, Orgies, sacrifice of a human or animal of either sex, any age



Photo by David March

Space seeds - Students at the Dillsburg Elementary School are growing tomatoes from seeds that have been orbiting the earth for the past seven years. The 50 tomato plants will be compared to a control group of 50 non-space seeds. The idea is to compare the two groups of plants and record any differences in the caribound v. the space seeds.

Some of the students participating from Mr. Daniel Worley's 5th grade Science class are (front) Ryan Glenn, Tory Brandt, Josh Pleszewicz, and (back) Amy Pigliacampo, Diana Eyler and Andrea Stevenson.

Spring clean up day slated

By Mary Lou Bytoll

Carroll Township residents who are ready for spring cleaning should mark April 27 and 28 on their calendars.

Trash will be collected at the township building on Friday, April 27, noon to 8 p.m.; and Saturday, April 28, 8 a.m. to noon.

The township will pay Chamber Development of Harrisburg \$170 per pull, and \$44 per ton.

Residents are asked to check local newspapers later this month for specific information. To date, the company will refuse the following items: tires, furniture, combustibles, and hazardous waste.

At the request of Zoning Officer Donald Bowers, the supervisors set the cost of building permits at \$5 per 1,000 feet.

"This cost sounds very reasonable," Larry Eichelberger, chairman of the board of supervisors, said. The action passed unanimously.

Bowers also informed the supervisors that applications for Block Grants will be accepted in October.

Supervisor Eichelberger asked Supervisor Norman Shelly Jr. to check with the township engineer about applying for a Block Grant to pave Ridge Road.

Last month, the board received a letter from residents of West Ridge Road requesting the

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See Carroll Township